

**(FOR USE IN CIVIL CASES WITH MAG JUDGE AS PRESIDERS)**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Plaintiff(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
vs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT TO EXERCISE OF JURISDICTION BY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

In accordance with provisions of Title 28, U.S.C. Sec. 636(c)(1), the undersigned (party)(counsel of record for \_\_\_\_\_) in the above-captioned civil matter hereby voluntarily consents to have a United States Magistrate Judge conduct any and all further proceedings in the case, including trial and entry of a final judgment, with direct review by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals if an appeal is filed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**DISTRICT JUDGE OPTION**

Pursuant to Title 28, U.S.C. Sec. 636(c)(2) the undersigned (party)(counsel of record for \_\_\_\_\_) in the above captioned civil matter acknowledges the availability of a United States Magistrate Judge but elects to have this case randomly assigned to a United States District Judge.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Consent was served (by mail) (by hand delivery) on all parties of record in this case, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT ELECTRONICALLY FILE. RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CLERK'S  
OFFICE NO LATER THAN TWENTY DAYS FROM  
YOUR APPEARANCE IN THIS CASE.**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

**CONSENT TO EXERCISE OF JURISDICTION  
BY UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PARTIES**

Pursuant to Local Rule 3.8(a), all civil cases will be randomly assigned to a U.S. District Court Judge or to a U.S. Magistrate Judge.

When a case is filed and assigned to a U.S. Magistrate Judge, consent forms, for all parties, are stamped with a case number and given to the individual who is filing the case. On these forms, consent may be given to the jurisdiction of the magistrate judge by signing the consent section of the form. If all parties consent, the case will remain with the magistrate judge, pursuant to 28:636(c)(1). These cases are assigned to a magistrate judge for all purposes, including trial and final entry of judgment. Any appeal from a judgment entered by the Magistrate Judge may be taken directly to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of a district court.

Magistrate Judges do not conduct trials in felony criminal cases. Because of this, criminal cases will not interfere with scheduling and trials before a Magistrate Judge. It is likely that a consent to a Magistrate Judge assignment will mean that this civil case will be resolved sooner and less expensively. However, consent is voluntary, and no adverse consequences of any kind will be felt by any party or attorney who objects to assignment of a case to the Magistrate Judge.

**The party filing the case or removal is responsible for serving all parties with the consent forms.**

If any party chooses the district judge option, the case will be randomly reassigned to a U.S. District Court Judge. To elect to have the case heard before a U.S. District Court Judge, the District Judge Option section of the form must be completed.

**Each party must file the completed consent form and certificate of service with the court no later than 20 days after entry of appearance. This document should be filed in paper form only and must serve a copy by mail or hand delivery upon all parties of record in the case.**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

District of ARIZONA

VICKI WEEKS,

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

V.

MERCK & COMPANY, INC.

CASE

TO: (Name and address of Defendant)

Merck & Company, Inc.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to serve on PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)

Mark P. Robinson, Jr.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

an answer to the complaint which is served on you with this summons, within 20 days after service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Any answer that you serve on the parties to this action must be filed with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE



(By) DEPUTY CLERK

**(FOR USE IN CIVIL CASES WITH MAG JUDGE AS PRESIDERS)**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

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1 **Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706**  
2 **PERONA, LANGER, BECK,**  
3 **LALLANDE & SERBIN**  
4 300 East San Antonio  
Long Beach, CA 90807-0948  
562-426-6155; Fax 562-988-9365

5 **Mark P. Robinson, Jr., SBN 054426**  
6 **Cynthia L. Garber, SBN 208922**  
7 **ROBINSON, CALCAGNIE & ROBINSON**  
8 620 Newport Center Drive, 7th Floor  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
949-720-1288; Fax 949-720-1292

9 Attorneys for Plaintiff

10  
11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
12 **DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
13

14 VICKI WEEKS,

15  
16 Plaintiff,

17 vs.

18  
19 MERCK & COMPANY, INC.,  
20

21 Defendant.  
22  
23  
24

CASE NO. CV 08-00623-PHX-DKD

NOTICE OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
NOTICE OF TAG-ALONG ACTION

25  
26 TO: THE CLERK OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL  
27 DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES  
28

1 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 9, 2008, a Notice of Tag-Along  
2 Action in the above-entitled matter was transmitted to the United States District  
3 Court Southern District of New York, MDL No. 1789, *In Re: Fosamax Products*  
4 *Liability Litigation*. A copy of said Notice is attached as Exhibit "A".  
5

6 Dated: April \_\_, 2008  
7

8 By: Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706  
9 **PERONA, LANGER, BECK,**  
10 **LALLANDE & SERBIN**

11 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
12  
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**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL  
ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

IN RE:	)	MDL DOCKET NO. 1789 (JFK)
	)	
FOSAMAX PRODUCTS LIABILITY	)	
LITIGATION	)	
_____	)	

**NOTICE OF TAG-ALONG  
ACTION BY PLAINTIFF, VICKI WEEKS**

In accordance with Rule 7.2(I) of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, Plaintiff, Vicki Weeks (hereinafter “Plaintiff”), hereby gives notice to the Clerk of the Panel and all parties in the above-captioned litigation of a new “tag-along action,” as defined by Rule 1.1.



As set forth in the attached Summons and Complaint, a new action, *Vicki Weeks v. Merck & Co.*, was recently filed by Plaintiff's counsel in the Central District of California on April 1, 2008, Case No. CV-08-00623-PHX-DKD (see Exhibit "A"). The Plaintiff's civil action involves common questions of law and fact with the above-captioned action currently under consideration by the Panel. Accordingly, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Panel treat the Plaintiff's recently filed action as a "tag-along action."

Dated: April 10, 2008

ROBINSON, CALCAGNIE & ROBINSON

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Mark P. Robinson, Jr.

Cynthia L. Garber

T: 949-720-1288

F: 949-720-1292

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Vicki Weeks

**BEFORE THE JUDICIAL PANEL  
ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

IN RE:	)	MDL DOCKET NO. 1789 (JFK)
	)	
FOSAMAX PRODUCTS LIABILITY	)	
LITIGATION	)	
_____	)	

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do certify that I have served a copy of Notice of Tag-Along Action by Plaintiff, Vicki Weeks, upon the following counsel of record, by placing a copy of same in the United States Mail, properly addressed and postage prepaid, via first class mail, on this 10th day of April, 2008.

Christopher A. Seeger  
Seeger Weiss LLP  
One William Street  
New York, NY 10004  
(212) 584-0700

Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel

Alyson B. Jones  
Butler Snow, O'Mara,  
Stevens & Cannada  
POB 22567  
Jackson, MS 39225-2567  
601-948-5711

Attorneys for Defendant,  
Merck & Co.

ROBINSON, CALCAGNIE & ROBINSON

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark P. Robinson, Jr.  
Cynthia L. Garber  
Tel: 949-720-1288  
Fax: 949-720-1292

Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Vicki Weeks

EXHIBIT “A”

AO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

District of ARIZONA

VICKI WEEKS,

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

V.

MERCK & COMPANY, INC.

CASE

TO: (Name and address of Defendant)

Merck & Company, Inc.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to serve on PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)

Mark P. Robinson, Jr.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

an answer to the complaint which is served on you with this summons, within 20 days after service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Any answer that you serve on the parties to this action must be filed with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE

(By) DEPUTY CLERK

1 **Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706**  
2 **PERONA, LANGER, BECK,**  
3 **LALLANDE & SERBIN**  
4 300 East San Antonio  
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949-720-1288; Fax 949-720-1292

9 Attorneys for Plaintiff

10  
11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
12 **DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
13

14 VICKI WEEKS,

15 Plaintiff,

16 vs.

17 MERCK & COMPANY, INC.,

18 Defendant.  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLAINT

1. Strict Liability – Failure to Warn
2. Strict Products Liability -- Defective Design
3. Negligence
4. Breach of Implied Warranty
5. Breach of Express Warranty
6. Deceit by Concealment
7. Negligent Misrepresentation

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 **COMPLAINT**

2 Plaintiff, VICKI WEEKS, alleges as follows:

3 **INTRODUCTION**

4 This case involves the prescription drug FOSAMAX® (alendronate sodium),  
5 (hereinafter "FOSAMAX® "), which was manufactured, sold, distributed, and  
6 promoted by defendant for the treatment of osteoporosis. Defendants  
7 misrepresented that FOSAMAX®, was a safe and effective treatment for such  
8 disorders, when in fact the drug caused serious injuries to the jaw bones, including  
9 osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration.

10  
11 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

12 1. The jurisdiction of this Court over the subject matter of this action is  
13 predicated on 28 U.S.C. Section 1332. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of California,  
14 County of Los Angeles, and Defendants are corporations, whose States of  
15 incorporation and principal places of business are as set forth in paragraph 13 below.  
16 Plaintiff is a citizen of a State different from the State where Defendants are  
17 incorporated and have their principal places of business. The amount in controversy  
18 exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and the parties are citizens of  
19 different states. Venue in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(c) in that  
20 substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted herein  
21 occurred in this District, and Defendants have sufficient contacts within the District  
22 to subject them to personal jurisdiction in this District.

23  
24 **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

25 2. This action is an action for damages brought on behalf of the Plaintiff  
26 who was prescribed and supplied with, received, and who ingested and consumed  
27 the prescription drug FOSAMAX®, as tested, studied, researched, evaluated,  
28 endorsed, designed, formulated, compounded, manufactured, produced, processed,

1 assembled, inspected, distributed, marketed, labeled, promoted, packaged,  
2 advertised for sale, prescribed, sold or otherwise placed in the stream of interstate  
3 commerce by Defendants. This action seeks, among other relief, general and special  
4 damages and equitable relief in order to enable the Plaintiff to treat and monitor the  
5 dangerous, severe and life-threatening side effects caused by FOSAMAX®.

6 3. The injuries and damages of Plaintiff were caused by the wrongful acts,  
7 omissions, and fraudulent misrepresentations of Defendants.

8 4. At all times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants was the agent,  
9 servant, partner, aider and abettor, co-conspirator and joint venturer of each of the  
10 remaining Defendants herein and were at all times operating and acting within the  
11 purpose and scope of said agency, service, employment, partnership, conspiracy and  
12 joint venture and rendered substantial assistance and encouragement to the other  
13 Defendants, knowing that their conduct constituted a breach of duty owed to  
14 Plaintiff.

15 5. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, a unity of  
16 interest in ownership between certain Defendants and other certain Defendants such  
17 that any individuality and separateness between the certain Defendants has ceased  
18 and these Defendants are the alter-ego of the other certain Defendants and exerted  
19 control over those Defendants. Adherence to the fiction of the separate existence of  
20 these certain Defendants as an entity distinct from other certain Defendants will  
21 permit an abuse of the corporate privilege and would sanction fraud and would  
22 promote injustice.

23 6. The damages of Plaintiff were caused by the wrongful acts, omissions,  
24 and fraudulent misrepresentations of Defendants.

25 7. At all times herein mentioned, the Defendants, and each of them were  
26 engaged in the business of, or were successors in interest to, entities engaged in the  
27 business of research, licensing, designing, formulating, compounding, testing,  
28 manufacturing, producing, processing, assembling, inspecting, distributing,



1 marketing, labeling, promoting, packaging and/or advertising for sale or selling the  
2 prescription drug known as FOSAMAX®, for the use and ingestion by Plaintiff.

3 8. At all times herein mentioned, the Defendants, and each of them, were  
4 corporations authorized to do business in the state of residence of Plaintiff.

5 9. At all times herein mentioned, the officers and directors of the  
6 Defendants named herein participated in, authorized and directed the production and  
7 promotion of the aforementioned product when they knew, or with the exercise of  
8 reasonable care should have known, of the hazards and dangerous propensities of  
9 said product and thereby actively participated in the tortious conduct which resulted  
10 in the injuries of Plaintiff herein.

11 10. Plaintiff files this lawsuit within the applicable limitations period of  
12 first suspecting that said drugs were the cause of any appreciable harm sustained by  
13 Plaintiff. Plaintiff could not, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, have  
14 discovered the wrongful cause of the Plaintiff's injuries at an earlier time because  
15 the injuries were caused without perceptible trauma or harm, and when the  
16 Plaintiff's injuries were discovered their cause was unknown to Plaintiff. Plaintiff  
17 did not suspect, nor did Plaintiff have reason to suspect, that Plaintiff had been  
18 injured, the cause of the injuries, or the tortious nature of the conduct causing the  
19 injuries, until less than the applicable limitations period prior to the filing of this  
20 action. Additionally, Plaintiff was prevented from discovering this information  
21 sooner because Defendants herein misrepresented and continue to misrepresent to  
22 the public and to the medical profession that the drugs are safe and free from serious  
23 side effects, and Defendants have fraudulently concealed facts and information that  
24 could have led Plaintiff to discover a potential cause of action.

## 25 **PARTIES**

### 26 **The Plaintiff**

27 11. Plaintiff, VICKI WEEKS, was prescribed and supplied with, received,  
28 took, ingested, and consumed the prescription drug FOSAMAX®, and was injured

1 as a result. Plaintiff resides in the State of Arizona, County of Pinal, and is a citizen  
2 of the State of Arizona.

3  
4 **The Defendants**

5 12. Defendant, Merck & Company Inc., tested, studied, researched,  
6 evaluated, endorsed, designed, formulated, compounded, manufactured, produced,  
7 processed, assembled, inspected, distributed, marketed, labeled, promoted,  
8 packaged, advertised for sale, prescribed, sold and distributed, or otherwise placed  
9 in the stream of interstate commerce, FOSAMAX®, which was ingested by the  
10 Plaintiff. Defendant, Merck & Company Inc. was and is an American  
11 pharmaceutical company, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey,  
12 whose principal place of business is: One Merck Drive, P.O. Box 100, Whitehouse  
13 Station, New Jersey. On information and belief, said entity does business in  
14 California and at all times relevant herein, it developed, manufactured, marketed,  
15 distributed, and sold FOSOMAX® in interstate commerce and in the state of  
16 residence of Plaintiff. At all times herein mentioned, the officers and directors of  
17 the Defendants named herein participated in, authorized and directed the production  
18 and promotion of the aforementioned product when they knew, or with the exercise  
19 of reasonable care should have known, of the hazards and dangerous propensities of  
20 said product and thereby actively participated in the tortious conduct which resulted  
21 in the injuries and damages suffered by Plaintiff herein.

22 13. This Complaint seeks redress for damages sustained by the above-  
23 named Plaintiff's individual use of FOSAMAX®, manufactured and sold by Merck,  
24 the Defendants herein.

25  
26 **OVERVIEW**

27 14. FOSAMAX® is a pharmaceutical osteoprotective drug, approved by  
28 the FDA for the treatment of osteoporosis. Defendants Merck did manufacture,

1 design, package, market and distribute this drug. Defendants Merck (hereinafter  
2 “Defendants”) encouraged the use of this drug in improper customers,  
3 misrepresented the safety and effectiveness of this drug and concealed or  
4 understated its dangerous side effects.

5 15. The market for such osteoporosis drugs is huge. According to Merck it  
6 has experienced significant growth in the sales of FOSAMAX® \$3.5 Billion in  
7 2005.

8 16. In June 1995 Merck submitted an application for FOSAMAX® which  
9 was approved by the FDA in September 1995 for use in the U.S. for the treatment of  
10 osteoporosis.

11 17. At all times relevant hereto, the Defendants actually knew of the  
12 defective nature of their product as herein set forth, yet continued to design,  
13 manufacture, market, distribute and sell their product so as to maximize sales and  
14 profits at the expense of the general public’s health and safety in conscious disregard  
15 of the foreseeable harm caused by this product. Defendants’ conduct exhibits such  
16 an entire want of care as to establish that their actions were a result of fraud, ill will,  
17 recklessness, gross negligence or willful and intentional disregard to Plaintiff’s  
18 rights, and hence punitive damages are appropriate.

19 18. The damages sought herein are the direct and proximate result of  
20 Defendants’ wrongful conduct in connection with designing, testing, inspecting,  
21 manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling, sterilizing, licensing, marketing,  
22 advertising, promoting, selling, packaging, supplying and/or distributing the  
23 prescription drug FOSAMAX®.

24 19. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants were engaged in the business  
25 of designing, testing, inspecting, manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling,  
26 sterilizing, licensing, marketing, advertising, promoting, selling, packaging,  
27 supplying and/or distributing the pharmaceutical drug FOSAMAX® throughout the  
28 United States.

20. Had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with using FOSAMAX®, Plaintiff would not have taken FOSAMAX®.

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

21. FOSAMAX® (generically known as alendronate sodium) is an oral form among the class of drugs called nitrogenous bisphosphonates. This class of drugs, including Aredia has been available in the U.S. since the early 1990's.

22. The Food and Drug Administration approved FOSAMAX® on September 1995 for the treatment of management of prevention of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women, for increasing bone mass in men with osteoporosis, for men and women with low bone mass taking glucocorticoids and those with Paget's disease.

23. FOSAMAX® is believed to treat osteoporosis by inhibiting osteoclasts, thereby preventing bone turnover.

24. Although FOSAMAX was aggressively and widely marketed by Merck as a safe and effective treatment far more effective than traditional calcium supplements, when in fact FOSAMAX had a significantly higher risk of osteonecrosis, a condition extremely rare except in the presence of bisphosphonate treatment.

25. Defendants' strategy beginning in the 1995 has been to aggressively market and sell its products by falsely misleading potential users about the products and by failing to protect users from serious dangers that Defendants knew or should have known to result from use of these products.

26. The product warnings for FOSAMAX® in effect during the relevant time period were vague, incomplete or otherwise wholly inadequate, both substantively and graphically, to alert prescribing physicians as well as consumer patients of the actual risks associated with the drug.

///

1           27. Defendants widely and successfully marketed FOSAMAX® in the  
2 United States, by undertaking an advertising campaign extolling the virtues of  
3 FOSAMAX® in order to induce widespread use of the products. The marketing  
4 campaign consisted of advertisements, promotional literature to be placed in the  
5 offices of doctors and other health care providers, and other promotional materials  
6 provided to potential FOSAMAX® users. The advertising program, as a whole,  
7 sought to create the image, impression and belief by consumers and physicians that  
8 the use of FOSAMAX® was safe for human use, had fewer side effects and adverse  
9 reactions than other nitrogenous bisphosphonates and would not interfere with daily  
10 life, even though Defendants knew these to be false, and even though the  
11 Defendants had no reasonable grounds to believe them to be true.

12           28. Defendants purposefully downplayed and understated the health  
13 hazards and risks associated with FOSAMAX®. Defendants, through sales  
14 representatives, promotional literature, audio conferences, professional meetings,  
15 and press releases deceived potential users of FOSAMAX® by overstating the  
16 benefits of FOSAMAX® and minimizing the known related risks associated with  
17 the drug. While withholding safety information from the FDA, the prescribing  
18 physicians and that public

19           29. If the Plaintiff had known the risks and dangers associated with  
20 FOSAMAX®, said Plaintiff would not have taken FOSAMAX ® and  
21 consequentially would not have been subject to its serious side effects.

22  
23                           **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

24                           **STRICT LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN**

25           30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27           31. Defendants, directly or indirectly, negligently and/or defectively  
28 designed, tested, inspected, manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled sterilized,

1 licensed, marketed, advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or  
2 distributed the drug FOSAMAX®.

3 32. At all times material hereto, Defendants had a duty to users and/or  
4 consumers of FOSAMAX®, including Plaintiff, to exercise reasonable care in the  
5 design, testing, inspection, manufacture, assembly, development, labeling,  
6 sterilization, licensing, marketing, advertising, promotion, sale, packaging, supply  
7 and/or distribution of FOSAMAX®.

8 33. Defendants breached that duty and were negligent in the design, testing,  
9 inspection, manufacture, assembly, development, labeling, sterilization, licensing,  
10 marketing, advertising, promotion, sales, packaging, supply and/or distribution of  
11 FOSAMAX® in that: FOSAMAX® was defective when put on the market by  
12 Defendants; that with such defect, FOSAMAX® was reasonably certain to be  
13 dangerous when put to normal use; and that Defendants failed to use reasonable care  
14 in designing or making FOSAMAX® or in inspecting it for defects. Specifically,  
15 Defendants breached their duty by, among other things:

- 16 a. Failing to include adequate warnings that would alert the  
17 medical, pharmaceutical and/or scientific communities, and users  
18 and/or consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, to the potential  
19 risks and serious side effects of the drug;
- 20 b. Failing to adequately and properly test and inspect the drug  
21 before placing the drug on the market;
- 22 c. Failing to conduct sufficient testing and inspection of the drug  
23 which, if properly performed, would have shown that the drug  
24 had serious side effects, including, but not limited to, injuries to  
25 the jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and  
26 degeneration;
- 27 d. Failing to adequately warn the medical, pharmaceutical and/or  
28 scientific communities, and users and/or consumers of the drug,

1 including Plaintiff, of the potential risks and other serious side  
2 effects associated with the drug, including, among other things,  
3 injuries to the jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and  
4 degeneration;

- 5 e. Failing to provide adequate post-marketing warnings or  
6 instructions after Defendants knew or should have known of the  
7 significant risks associated with the use of the drug;  
8 f. Failing to recall and/or remove the drug from the stream of  
9 commerce despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have  
10 known of the defective and unreasonably dangerous nature of the  
11 drug, including the significant health risks associated with the  
12 use of the drug.  
13 g. Encouraging misuse and overuse while failing to disclose the  
14 side effects of the drug to the medical, pharmaceutical and/or  
15 scientific communities and users and/or consumers, including  
16 Plaintiff, in order to make a profit from sales.

17 34. Defendants knew or should have known that FOSAMAX® caused  
18 unreasonably dangerous risks and serious side effects of which users and/or  
19 consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, were not aware. Defendants nevertheless  
20 advertised, promoted, marketed, sold, distributed and/or supplied FOSAMAX®  
21 knowing that there were safer methods for treatment of osteoporosis.

22 35. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
23 Defendants, Plaintiff sustained injuries including, among other things, injuries to the  
24 jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration. In most of these  
25 cases, these injuries caused and continue to cause extensive pain and suffering and  
26 severe emotional distress and substantially reduced Plaintiff's ability to enjoy life.  
27 In addition, Defendants' negligence caused Plaintiff to expend substantial sums of  
28 money for medical, hospital, and related care.



1           36. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
2 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured in health, strength and activity and suffered  
3 physical injuries as well as mental anguish. All of these said injuries caused  
4 Plaintiff intense anxiety, distress, fear, pain, suffering and distress secondary to  
5 physical injury and damages.

6           37. As a direct, legal proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
7 Defendants, Plaintiff required reasonable and necessary health care treatment and  
8 services and had incurred expenses therefore. Defendants' negligence was a  
9 contributing cause of Plaintiff's injuries and Plaintiff's economic and non-economic  
10 loss.

11           38. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff was damaged by the negligence  
12 and wanton and willful recklessness of the Defendants. The amount sought herein  
13 exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts that would otherwise have  
14 jurisdiction over this matter.

15  
16                           **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
17                           **STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY**  
18                           **DEFECTIVE DESIGN**

19           39. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
20 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

21           40. At all times material hereto, Defendants have engaged in the business  
22 of designing, testing, inspecting, manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling,  
23 sterilizing, licensing, marketing, advertising, promoting, selling, packaging,  
24 supplying and/or distributing the drug FOSAMAX®, which is defective and  
25 unreasonably dangerous to users and/or consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff.

26           41. At all times material hereto, FOSAMAX® was designed, tested,  
27 inspected, manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled, sterilized, licensed,  
28 marketed, advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or distributed by



1 Defendants in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition in ways which  
2 include, but are not limited to one or more of the following:

- 3 a. When placed in the stream of commerce, the drug contained  
4 unreasonably dangerous design defects and was not reasonably  
5 safe and fit for its intended or reasonably foreseeable purpose or  
6 as intended to be used, thereby subjecting users and/or  
7 consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, to risks which  
8 exceeded the benefits of the drug;
- 9 b. The drug was insufficiently tested;
- 10 c. The drug caused harmful side effects that outweighed any  
11 potential utility;
- 12 d. The drug was not accompanied by adequate labeling or  
13 instructions for use to fully apprise the medical, pharmaceutical  
14 and/or scientific communities, and users and/or consumers of the  
15 drug, including Plaintiff, of the potential risks and serious side  
16 effects associated with its use;
- 17 e. In light of the potential and actual risk of harm associated with  
18 the drug's use, a reasonable person who had actual knowledge of  
19 this potential and actual risk of harm would have concluded that  
20 FOSAMAX® should not have been marketed in that condition.

21 42. At all times the drug FOSAMAX® was designed, tested, inspected,  
22 manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled, sterilized, licensed, marketed,  
23 advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or distributed, it was expected to  
24 reach, and did reach, users and/or consumers of the drug across the United States,  
25 including Plaintiff, without substantial change in the defective and unreasonably  
26 dangerous condition in which it was sold.

27 43. At all times, Plaintiff used FOSAMAX® for its intended or reasonably  
28 foreseeable purpose.

1           44. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the defective and  
2 unreasonably dangerous condition of FOSAMAX®, Plaintiff sustained substantial  
3 injuries, including in some cases among other things, injuries to the jaw bones,  
4 including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration. The defective and  
5 unreasonably dangerous condition of FOSAMAX® has caused Plaintiff to expend  
6 substantial sums of money for medical, hospital, and related care.

7  
8                                   **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
9                                   **NEGLIGENCE**

10           45. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
11 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

12           46. Defendants had a duty to properly manufacture, design, formulate,  
13 compound, test, produce, process, assemble, inspect, research, distribute, market,  
14 label, package, distribute, prepare for use, sell, prescribe and adequately warn of the  
15 risks and dangers of FOSAMAX®.

16           47. Defendants negligently and carelessly manufactured, designed,  
17 formulated, distributed, compounded, produced, processed, assembled, inspected,  
18 distributed, marketed, labeled, packaged, prepared for use and sold the  
19 aforementioned products and failed to adequately test and warn of the risks and  
20 dangers of the aforementioned products.

21           48. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that  
22 FOSAMAX® caused unreasonable, dangerous side effects, Defendants continued to  
23 market FOSAMAX® to consumers, including Plaintiff, when there were safer,  
24 alternative methods of treating.

25           49. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers such as  
26 Plaintiff would foreseeably suffer injury as a result of Defendants' failure to exercise  
27 ordinary care as described above. Defendants' negligence was a proximate cause of  
28

1 the Plaintiff's injuries, and the damages, harm and economic loss that Plaintiff  
2 suffered, and will continue to suffer, as described and prayed for herein.

3  
4 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

5 **BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY**

6 50. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
7 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

8 51. Prior to the time that the aforementioned products were used by the  
9 Plaintiff, Defendants impliedly warranted to the Plaintiff and Plaintiff's agents and  
10 physicians that said products were of merchantable quality and safe and fit for the  
11 use for which they were intended.

12 52. Plaintiff was unskilled in the research, design and manufacture of the  
13 aforementioned products and reasonably relied entirely on the skill, judgment and  
14 implied warranty of the Plaintiff in using the aforementioned products.

15 53. The aforementioned product was neither safe for its intended use nor of  
16 merchantable quality, as warranted by Defendants, in that FOSAMAX® had  
17 dangerous propensities when put to its intended use and would cause severe injuries  
18 to the user.

19 54. As a result of the aforementioned breach of implied warranties by  
20 Defendants, the Plaintiff was injured and suffered the harm and damages as alleged  
21 herein.

22  
23 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

24 **FOR BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY**

25 55. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27 56. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants expressly represented and  
28 warranted to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's agents and physicians, by and through

1 statements made by Defendants or its authorized agents or sales representatives,  
2 orally and in publications, package inserts and other written materials intended for  
3 physicians, medical patients and the general public, that the aforementioned product  
4 was safe, effective, fit and proper for their intended use. In reliance upon said  
5 warranties, Plaintiff purchased said product.

6 57. In utilizing the aforementioned products, Plaintiff relied on the skill,  
7 judgment, representations and foregoing express warranties of the Defendants. Said  
8 warranties and representations were false in that the aforementioned products were  
9 not safe and were unfit for the uses for which they were intended.

10 58. As a result of the foregoing breach of express warranties by the  
11 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and sustained the harm and damages as herein  
12 alleged.

13  
14 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
15 **DECEIT BY CONCEALMENT**

16 59. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
17 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

18 60. Defendants, from the time that FOSAMAX® was first tested, studied,  
19 researched, evaluated, endorsed, manufactured, marketed and distributed, and up to  
20 the present, willfully deceived Plaintiff and by concealing from Plaintiff and  
21 Plaintiff's physicians and the general public, the true facts concerning said  
22 pharmaceutical products, which the Defendants had a duty to disclose.

23 61. Defendant Merck has not warned, and continues not to warn,  
24 physicians and consumers' physicians and consumers in the United States.

25 62. Defendant Merck conducted a sales and marketing campaign to  
26 promote the sale of the aforementioned drug products and willfully deceive Plaintiff  
27 and Plaintiff's physicians and the general public as to the health risks and  
28 consequences of the use of FOSAMAX® Defendants were aware of the foregoing,

1 and that FOSAMAX® was not safe, fit and effective for human consumption, the  
2 use of FOSAMAX® is hazardous to health, and FOSAMAX® has a serious  
3 propensity to cause serious injuries to users, including but not limited to the injuries  
4 suffered by Plaintiff and the harm and damages sustained by Plaintiff as delineated  
5 herein.

6 63. Defendants intentionally concealed and suppressed the true facts  
7 concerning FOSAMAX® with the intent to defraud Plaintiff, in that the Defendants  
8 knew that the Plaintiff's physicians would not prescribe FOSAMAX®, and the  
9 Plaintiff would not have used FOSAMAX®, if Plaintiff were aware of the true facts  
10 concerning the dangers of FOSAMAX®.

11 64. As a result of the foregoing fraudulent and deceitful conduct by the  
12 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and suffered harm and damages as alleged herein.

### 13 14 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 15 **NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION**

16 65. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
17 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

18 66. Defendants, from the time that FOSAMAX® was first tested, studied,  
19 researched, evaluated, endorsed, manufactured, marketed and distributed, and up to  
20 the present, made false misrepresentations, as previously set forth herein, to  
21 Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians, and the general public, including but not limited to  
22 the misrepresentation that FOSAMAX® was safe, fit and effective for human  
23 consumption. Defendants conducted a sales and marketing campaign to promote the  
24 sale of FOSAMAX® and willfully deceived Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians and the  
25 general public as to the health risks and consequences of the use of the  
26 aforementioned products.

27 67. The Defendants made the foregoing representation without any  
28 reasonable ground for believing them to be true. These representations were made

1 directly by Defendants, by sales representatives and other authorized agents of said  
2 Defendants, and in publications and other written materials directed to physicians,  
3 medical patients and the public, with the intention of inducing reliance, and the  
4 prescription, purchase and use of the subject products.

5 68. The foregoing representations by the Defendants were in fact false, in  
6 that FOSAMAX® was not safe, fit and effective for human consumption, the use of  
7 FOSAMAX® is hazardous to health, and FOSAMAX® has a serious propensity to  
8 cause serious injuries to users, including but not limited to the injuries suffered by  
9 Plaintiff as delineated herein.

10 69. The foregoing representations by Defendants were made with the  
11 intention of inducing reliance and the prescription, purchase and use of  
12 FOSAMAX®.

13 70. In reliance on the misrepresentations by the Defendants, the Plaintiff  
14 was induced to purchase and use FOSAMAX®. If the Plaintiff had known of the  
15 true facts and the facts concealed by the Defendants, said Plaintiff would not have  
16 used FOSAMAX®. The reliance of Plaintiff upon Defendants' misrepresentations  
17 was justified because such misrepresentations were made and conducted by  
18 individuals and entities that were in a position to know the true facts.

19 71. As a result of the foregoing negligent misrepresentations by the  
20 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and suffered harm and damages as alleged herein.

21  
22 **PUNITIVE DAMAGES ALLEGATIONS**

23 **(As to the First, Second, Third, Sixth, and**  
24 **Seventh Causes of Action, only)**

25 72. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27 73. The acts, conduct, and omissions of Defendants as alleged throughout  
28 this Complaint were willful and malicious and were done with a conscious disregard

1 for the rights of Plaintiff and other users of the Defendants' product and for the  
2 primary purpose of increasing Defendants' profits from the sale and distribution of  
3 FOSAMAX®. Defendants' outrageous and unconscionable conduct warrants an  
4 award of exemplary and punitive damages against Defendants in an amount  
5 appropriate to punish and make an example of Defendants.

6 74. Prior to the manufacturing, sale and distribution of said prescribed  
7 medication, Defendants knew that said medication was in a defective condition as  
8 previously described herein and knew that those who were prescribed the  
9 medication would experience and did experience severe physical, mental, and  
10 emotional injuries. Further, Defendants, through their officers, directors, managers,  
11 and agents, had knowledge that the medication presented a substantial and  
12 unreasonable risk of harm to the public, including Plaintiff and, as such, said  
13 consumers of said drugs were unreasonably subjected to risk of injury or death from  
14 the consumption of said product.

15 75. Despite such knowledge, Defendants, acting through their officers,  
16 directors and managing agents for the purpose of enhancing Defendants' profits,  
17 knowingly and deliberately failed to remedy the known defects in said medication  
18 and failed to warn the public, including Plaintiff, of the extreme risk of injury  
19 occasioned by said defects inherent in said medication. Said Defendants and their  
20 individual agents, officers, and directors intentionally proceeded with the  
21 manufacturing, sale, and distribution and marketing of said medication knowing  
22 persons would be exposed to serious danger in order to advance Defendants' own  
23 pecuniary interest and monetary profits.

24 76. Defendants' conduct was despicable, and so contemptible that it would  
25 be looked down upon and despised by ordinary decent people, and was carried on by  
26 Defendants with willful and conscious disregard for the safety of and the rights of  
27 Plaintiff, entitling Plaintiff to exemplary damages.  
28

1           **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for judgment against the Defendants, as  
2 follows, as appropriate to each cause of action alleged:

3           1.     Past and future general damages in excess of seventy-five thousand  
4 dollars (\$75,000.00), exclusive of interest and costs, the exact amount of which has  
5 yet to be ascertained, in an amount which will conform to proof at time of trial;

6           2.     Past and future economic and special damages according to proof at the  
7 time of trial;

8           3.     Past medical and burial expenses according to proof at the time of trial;

9           4.     For punitive or exemplary damages according to proof on the First,  
10 Second, Third, Sixth, and Seventh causes of action;

11           5.     Restitution, disgorgement of profits, and other equitable relief;

12           6.     Injunctive relief;

13           7.     Attorney's fees;

14           8.     For costs of suit incurred herein;

15           9.     For pre-judgment interest as provided by law;

16           10.    For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

17  
18 Dated: April 1, 2008

19 **Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706**

20 **PERONA, LANGER, BECK,**

21 **LALLANDE & SERBIN**

22 300 East San Antonio

23 Long Beach, CA 90807-0948

24 562-426-6155; Fax 562-988-9365

25 **Mark P. Robinson, Jr., SBN 054426**

26 **Cynthia L. Garber, SBN 208922**

27 **ROBINSON, CALCAGNIE & ROBINSON**

28 620 Newport Center Drive, 7th Floor

Newport Beach, CA 92660

949-720-1288; Fax 949-720-1292



**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial as provided by rule 38(a) of the *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure*.

Dated: April 1, 2008

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949-720-1288; Fax 949-720-1292  
9 Attorneys for Plaintiff

10  
11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
12 **DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
13

14 **VICKI WEEKS,**  
15 **Plaintiff,**  
16 **vs.**  
17 **MERCK & COMPANY, INC.,**  
18 **Defendant.**  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

**CASE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINT**

1. Strict Liability – Failure to Warn
2. Strict Products Liability -- Defective Design
3. Negligence
4. Breach of Implied Warranty
5. Breach of Express Warranty
6. Deceit by Concealment
7. Negligent Misrepresentation

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

1 **COMPLAINT**

2 Plaintiff, VICKI WEEKS, alleges as follows:

3 **INTRODUCTION**

4 This case involves the prescription drug FOSAMAX® (alendronate sodium),  
5 (hereinafter "FOSAMAX® "), which was manufactured, sold, distributed, and  
6 promoted by defendant for the treatment of osteoporosis. Defendants  
7 misrepresented that FOSAMAX®, was a safe and effective treatment for such  
8 disorders, when in fact the drug caused serious injuries to the jaw bones, including  
9 osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration.

10  
11 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

12 1. The jurisdiction of this Court over the subject matter of this action is  
13 predicated on 28 U.S.C. Section 1332. Plaintiff is a citizen of the State of California,  
14 County of Los Angeles, and Defendants are corporations, whose States of  
15 incorporation and principal places of business are as set forth in paragraph 13 below.  
16 Plaintiff is a citizen of a State different from the State where Defendants are  
17 incorporated and have their principal places of business. The amount in controversy  
18 exceeds \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs, and the parties are citizens of  
19 different states. Venue in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(c) in that  
20 substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted herein  
21 occurred in this District, and Defendants have sufficient contacts within the District  
22 to subject them to personal jurisdiction in this District.

23  
24 **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

25 2. This action is an action for damages brought on behalf of the Plaintiff  
26 who was prescribed and supplied with, received, and who ingested and consumed  
27 the prescription drug FOSAMAX®, as tested, studied, researched, evaluated,  
28 endorsed, designed, formulated, compounded, manufactured, produced, processed,

1 assembled, inspected, distributed, marketed, labeled, promoted, packaged,  
2 advertised for sale, prescribed, sold or otherwise placed in the stream of interstate  
3 commerce by Defendants. This action seeks, among other relief, general and special  
4 damages and equitable relief in order to enable the Plaintiff to treat and monitor the  
5 dangerous, severe and life-threatening side effects caused by FOSAMAX®.

6 3. The injuries and damages of Plaintiff were caused by the wrongful acts,  
7 omissions, and fraudulent misrepresentations of Defendants.

8 4. At all times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants was the agent,  
9 servant, partner, aider and abettor, co-conspirator and joint venturer of each of the  
10 remaining Defendants herein and were at all times operating and acting within the  
11 purpose and scope of said agency, service, employment, partnership, conspiracy and  
12 joint venture and rendered substantial assistance and encouragement to the other  
13 Defendants, knowing that their conduct constituted a breach of duty owed to  
14 Plaintiff.

15 5. There exists, and at all times herein mentioned there existed, a unity of  
16 interest in ownership between certain Defendants and other certain Defendants such  
17 that any individuality and separateness between the certain Defendants has ceased  
18 and these Defendants are the alter-ego of the other certain Defendants and exerted  
19 control over those Defendants. Adherence to the fiction of the separate existence of  
20 these certain Defendants as an entity distinct from other certain Defendants will  
21 permit an abuse of the corporate privilege and would sanction fraud and would  
22 promote injustice.

23 6. The damages of Plaintiff were caused by the wrongful acts, omissions,  
24 and fraudulent misrepresentations of Defendants.

25 7. At all times herein mentioned, the Defendants, and each of them were  
26 engaged in the business of, or were successors in interest to, entities engaged in the  
27 business of research, licensing, designing, formulating, compounding, testing,  
28 manufacturing, producing, processing, assembling, inspecting, distributing,

1 marketing, labeling, promoting, packaging and/or advertising for sale or selling the  
2 prescription drug known as FOSAMAX®, for the use and ingestion by Plaintiff.

3 8. At all times herein mentioned, the Defendants, and each of them, were  
4 corporations authorized to do business in the state of residence of Plaintiff.

5 9. At all times herein mentioned, the officers and directors of the  
6 Defendants named herein participated in, authorized and directed the production and  
7 promotion of the aforementioned product when they knew, or with the exercise of  
8 reasonable care should have known, of the hazards and dangerous propensities of  
9 said product and thereby actively participated in the tortious conduct which resulted  
10 in the injuries of Plaintiff herein.

11 10. Plaintiff files this lawsuit within the applicable limitations period of  
12 first suspecting that said drugs were the cause of any appreciable harm sustained by  
13 Plaintiff. Plaintiff could not, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, have  
14 discovered the wrongful cause of the Plaintiff's injuries at an earlier time because  
15 the injuries were caused without perceptible trauma or harm, and when the  
16 Plaintiff's injuries were discovered their cause was unknown to Plaintiff. Plaintiff  
17 did not suspect, nor did Plaintiff have reason to suspect, that Plaintiff had been  
18 injured, the cause of the injuries, or the tortious nature of the conduct causing the  
19 injuries, until less than the applicable limitations period prior to the filing of this  
20 action. Additionally, Plaintiff was prevented from discovering this information  
21 sooner because Defendants herein misrepresented and continue to misrepresent to  
22 the public and to the medical profession that the drugs are safe and free from serious  
23 side effects, and Defendants have fraudulently concealed facts and information that  
24 could have led Plaintiff to discover a potential cause of action.

## 25 **PARTIES**

### 26 **The Plaintiff**

27 11. Plaintiff, VICKI WEEKS, was prescribed and supplied with, received,  
28 took, ingested, and consumed the prescription drug FOSAMAX®, and was injured

1 as a result. Plaintiff resides in the State of Arizona, County of Pinal, and is a citizen  
2 of the State of Arizona.

3  
4 **The Defendants**

5 12. Defendant, Merck & Company Inc., tested, studied, researched,  
6 evaluated, endorsed, designed, formulated, compounded, manufactured, produced,  
7 processed, assembled, inspected, distributed, marketed, labeled, promoted,  
8 packaged, advertised for sale, prescribed, sold and distributed, or otherwise placed  
9 in the stream of interstate commerce, FOSAMAX®, which was ingested by the  
10 Plaintiff. Defendant, Merck & Company Inc. was and is an American  
11 pharmaceutical company, incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey,  
12 whose principal place of business is: One Merck Drive, P.O. Box 100, Whitehouse  
13 Station, New Jersey. On information and belief, said entity does business in  
14 California and at all times relevant herein, it developed, manufactured, marketed,  
15 distributed, and sold FOSOMAX® in interstate commerce and in the state of  
16 residence of Plaintiff. At all times herein mentioned, the officers and directors of  
17 the Defendants named herein participated in, authorized and directed the production  
18 and promotion of the aforementioned product when they knew, or with the exercise  
19 of reasonable care should have known, of the hazards and dangerous propensities of  
20 said product and thereby actively participated in the tortious conduct which resulted  
21 in the injuries and damages suffered by Plaintiff herein.

22 13. This Complaint seeks redress for damages sustained by the above-  
23 named Plaintiff's individual use of FOSAMAX®, manufactured and sold by Merck,  
24 the Defendants herein.

25  
26 **OVERVIEW**

27 14. FOSAMAX® is a pharmaceutical osteoprotective drug, approved by  
28 the FDA for the treatment of osteoporosis. Defendants Merck did manufacture,

1 design, package, market and distribute this drug. Defendants Merck (hereinafter  
2 “Defendants”) encouraged the use of this drug in improper customers,  
3 misrepresented the safety and effectiveness of this drug and concealed or  
4 understated its dangerous side effects.

5 15. The market for such osteoporosis drugs is huge. According to Merck it  
6 has experienced significant growth in the sales of FOSAMAX® \$3.5 Billion in  
7 2005.

8 16. In June 1995 Merck submitted an application for FOSAMAX® which  
9 was approved by the FDA in September 1995 for use in the U.S. for the treatment of  
10 osteoporosis.

11 17. At all times relevant hereto, the Defendants actually knew of the  
12 defective nature of their product as herein set forth, yet continued to design,  
13 manufacture, market, distribute and sell their product so as to maximize sales and  
14 profits at the expense of the general public’s health and safety in conscious disregard  
15 of the foreseeable harm caused by this product. Defendants’ conduct exhibits such  
16 an entire want of care as to establish that their actions were a result of fraud, ill will,  
17 recklessness, gross negligence or willful and intentional disregard to Plaintiff’s  
18 rights, and hence punitive damages are appropriate.

19 18. The damages sought herein are the direct and proximate result of  
20 Defendants’ wrongful conduct in connection with designing, testing, inspecting,  
21 manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling, sterilizing, licensing, marketing,  
22 advertising, promoting, selling, packaging, supplying and/or distributing the  
23 prescription drug FOSAMAX®.

24 19. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants were engaged in the business  
25 of designing, testing, inspecting, manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling,  
26 sterilizing, licensing, marketing, advertising, promoting, selling, packaging,  
27 supplying and/or distributing the pharmaceutical drug FOSAMAX® throughout the  
28 United States.

1           20. Had Defendants properly disclosed the risks associated with using  
2 FOSAMAX®, Plaintiff would not have taken FOSAMAX®.

3  
4           **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

5           21. FOSAMAX® (generically known as alendronate sodium) is an oral  
6 form among the class of drugs called nitrogenous bisphosphonates. This class of  
7 drugs, including Aredia has been available in the U.S. since the early 1990's.

8           22. The Food and Drug Administration approved FOSAMAX® on  
9 September 1995 for the treatment of management of prevention of osteoporosis in  
10 postmenopausal women, for increasing bone mass in men with osteoporosis, for  
11 men and women with low bone mass taking glucocorticoids and those with Paget's  
12 disease.

13           23. FOSAMAX® is believed to treat osteoporosis by inhibiting osteoclasts,  
14 thereby preventing bone turnover.

15           24. Although FOSAMAX was aggressively and widely marketed by Merck  
16 as a safe and effective treatment far more effective than traditional calcium  
17 supplements, when in fact FOSAMAX had a significantly higher risk of  
18 osteonecrosis, a condition extremely rare except in the presence of bisphosphonate  
19 treatment.

20           25. Defendants' strategy beginning in the 1995 has been to aggressively  
21 market and sell its products by falsely misleading potential users about the products  
22 and by failing to protect users from serious dangers that Defendants knew or should  
23 have known to result from use of these products.

24           26. The product warnings for FOSAMAX® in effect during the relevant  
25 time period were vague, incomplete or otherwise wholly inadequate, both  
26 substantively and graphically, to alert prescribing physicians as well as consumer  
27 patients of the actual risks associated with the drug.

28       ///



1           27. Defendants widely and successfully marketed FOSAMAX® in the  
2 United States, by undertaking an advertising campaign extolling the virtues of  
3 FOSAMAX® in order to induce widespread use of the products. The marketing  
4 campaign consisted of advertisements, promotional literature to be placed in the  
5 offices of doctors and other health care providers, and other promotional materials  
6 provided to potential FOSAMAX® users. The advertising program, as a whole,  
7 sought to create the image, impression and belief by consumers and physicians that  
8 the use of FOSAMAX® was safe for human use, had fewer side effects and adverse  
9 reactions than other nitrogenous bisphosphonates and would not interfere with daily  
10 life, even though Defendants knew these to be false, and even though the  
11 Defendants had no reasonable grounds to believe them to be true.

12           28. Defendants purposefully downplayed and understated the health  
13 hazards and risks associated with FOSAMAX®. Defendants, through sales  
14 representatives, promotional literature, audio conferences, professional meetings,  
15 and press releases deceived potential users of FOSAMAX® by overstating the  
16 benefits of FOSAMAX® and minimizing the known related risks associated with  
17 the drug. While withholding safety information from the FDA, the prescribing  
18 physicians and that public

19           29. If the Plaintiff had known the risks and dangers associated with  
20 FOSAMAX®, said Plaintiff would not have taken FOSAMAX ® and  
21 consequentially would not have been subject to its serious side effects.  
22

### 23                           **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 24                           **STRICT LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN**

25           30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27           31. Defendants, directly or indirectly, negligently and/or defectively  
28 designed, tested, inspected, manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled sterilized,

1 licensed, marketed, advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or  
2 distributed the drug FOSAMAX®.

3 32. At all times material hereto, Defendants had a duty to users and/or  
4 consumers of FOSAMAX®, including Plaintiff, to exercise reasonable care in the  
5 design, testing, inspection, manufacture, assembly, development, labeling,  
6 sterilization, licensing, marketing, advertising, promotion, sale, packaging, supply  
7 and/or distribution of FOSAMAX®.

8 33. Defendants breached that duty and were negligent in the design, testing,  
9 inspection, manufacture, assembly, development, labeling, sterilization, licensing,  
10 marketing, advertising, promotion, sales, packaging, supply and/or distribution of  
11 FOSAMAX® in that: FOSAMAX® was defective when put on the market by  
12 Defendants; that with such defect, FOSAMAX® was reasonably certain to be  
13 dangerous when put to normal use; and that Defendants failed to use reasonable care  
14 in designing or making FOSAMAX® or in inspecting it for defects. Specifically,  
15 Defendants breached their duty by, among other things:

- 16 a. Failing to include adequate warnings that would alert the  
17 medical, pharmaceutical and/or scientific communities, and users  
18 and/or consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, to the potential  
19 risks and serious side effects of the drug;
- 20 b. Failing to adequately and properly test and inspect the drug  
21 before placing the drug on the market;
- 22 c. Failing to conduct sufficient testing and inspection of the drug  
23 which, if properly performed, would have shown that the drug  
24 had serious side effects, including, but not limited to, injuries to  
25 the jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and  
26 degeneration;
- 27 d. Failing to adequately warn the medical, pharmaceutical and/or  
28 scientific communities, and users and/or consumers of the drug,

1 including Plaintiff, of the potential risks and other serious side  
2 effects associated with the drug, including, among other things,  
3 injuries to the jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and  
4 degeneration;

- 5 e. Failing to provide adequate post-marketing warnings or  
6 instructions after Defendants knew or should have known of the  
7 significant risks associated with the use of the drug;  
8 f. Failing to recall and/or remove the drug from the stream of  
9 commerce despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have  
10 known of the defective and unreasonably dangerous nature of the  
11 drug, including the significant health risks associated with the  
12 use of the drug.  
13 g. Encouraging misuse and overuse while failing to disclose the  
14 side effects of the drug to the medical, pharmaceutical and/or  
15 scientific communities and users and/or consumers, including  
16 Plaintiff, in order to make a profit from sales.

17 34. Defendants knew or should have known that FOSAMAX® caused  
18 unreasonably dangerous risks and serious side effects of which users and/or  
19 consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, were not aware. Defendants nevertheless  
20 advertised, promoted, marketed, sold, distributed and/or supplied FOSAMAX®  
21 knowing that there were safer methods for treatment of osteoporosis.

22 35. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
23 Defendants, Plaintiff sustained injuries including, among other things, injuries to the  
24 jaw bones, including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration. In most of these  
25 cases, these injuries caused and continue to cause extensive pain and suffering and  
26 severe emotional distress and substantially reduced Plaintiff's ability to enjoy life.  
27 In addition, Defendants' negligence caused Plaintiff to expend substantial sums of  
28 money for medical, hospital, and related care.

1           36. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
2 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured in health, strength and activity and suffered  
3 physical injuries as well as mental anguish. All of these said injuries caused  
4 Plaintiff intense anxiety, distress, fear, pain, suffering and distress secondary to  
5 physical injury and damages.

6           37. As a direct, legal proximate and producing result of the negligence of  
7 Defendants, Plaintiff required reasonable and necessary health care treatment and  
8 services and had incurred expenses therefore. Defendants' negligence was a  
9 contributing cause of Plaintiff's injuries and Plaintiff's economic and non-economic  
10 loss.

11           38. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff was damaged by the negligence  
12 and wanton and willful recklessness of the Defendants. The amount sought herein  
13 exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts that would otherwise have  
14 jurisdiction over this matter.

15  
16                           **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
17                           **STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY**  
18                           **DEFECTIVE DESIGN**

19           39. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
20 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

21           40. At all times material hereto, Defendants have engaged in the business  
22 of designing, testing, inspecting, manufacturing, assembling, developing, labeling,  
23 sterilizing, licensing, marketing, advertising, promoting, selling, packaging,  
24 supplying and/or distributing the drug FOSAMAX® , which is defective and  
25 unreasonably dangerous to users and/or consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff.

26           41. At all times material hereto, FOSAMAX® was designed, tested,  
27 inspected, manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled, sterilized, licensed,  
28 marketed, advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or distributed by

1 Defendants in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition in ways which  
2 include, but are not limited to one or more of the following:

- 3 a. When placed in the stream of commerce, the drug contained  
4 unreasonably dangerous design defects and was not reasonably  
5 safe and fit for its intended or reasonably foreseeable purpose or  
6 as intended to be used, thereby subjecting users and/or  
7 consumers of the drug, including Plaintiff, to risks which  
8 exceeded the benefits of the drug;
- 9 b. The drug was insufficiently tested;
- 10 c. The drug caused harmful side effects that outweighed any  
11 potential utility;
- 12 d. The drug was not accompanied by adequate labeling or  
13 instructions for use to fully apprise the medical, pharmaceutical  
14 and/or scientific communities, and users and/or consumers of the  
15 drug, including Plaintiff, of the potential risks and serious side  
16 effects associated with its use;
- 17 e. In light of the potential and actual risk of harm associated with  
18 the drug's use, a reasonable person who had actual knowledge of  
19 this potential and actual risk of harm would have concluded that  
20 FOSAMAX® should not have been marketed in that condition.

21 42. At all times the drug FOSAMAX® was designed, tested, inspected,  
22 manufactured, assembled, developed, labeled, sterilized, licensed, marketed,  
23 advertised, promoted, sold, packaged, supplied and/or distributed, it was expected to  
24 reach, and did reach, users and/or consumers of the drug across the United States,  
25 including Plaintiff, without substantial change in the defective and unreasonably  
26 dangerous condition in which it was sold.

27 43. At all times, Plaintiff used FOSAMAX® for its intended or reasonably  
28 foreseeable purpose.

1           44. As a direct, legal, proximate and producing result of the defective and  
2 unreasonably dangerous condition of FOSAMAX®, Plaintiff sustained substantial  
3 injuries, including in some cases among other things, injuries to the jaw bones,  
4 including osteonecrosis, bone loss, and degeneration. The defective and  
5 unreasonably dangerous condition of FOSAMAX® has caused Plaintiff to expend  
6 substantial sums of money for medical, hospital, and related care.

7  
8                                   **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
9                                   **NEGLIGENCE**

10           45. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
11 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

12           46. Defendants had a duty to properly manufacture, design, formulate,  
13 compound, test, produce, process, assemble, inspect, research, distribute, market,  
14 label, package, distribute, prepare for use, sell, prescribe and adequately warn of the  
15 risks and dangers of FOSAMAX®.

16           47. Defendants negligently and carelessly manufactured, designed,  
17 formulated, distributed, compounded, produced, processed, assembled, inspected,  
18 distributed, marketed, labeled, packaged, prepared for use and sold the  
19 aforementioned products and failed to adequately test and warn of the risks and  
20 dangers of the aforementioned products.

21           48. Despite the fact that Defendants knew or should have known that  
22 FOSAMAX® caused unreasonable, dangerous side effects, Defendants continued to  
23 market FOSAMAX® to consumers, including Plaintiff, when there were safer,  
24 alternative methods of treating.

25           49. Defendants knew or should have known that consumers such as  
26 Plaintiff would foreseeably suffer injury as a result of Defendants' failure to exercise  
27 ordinary care as described above. Defendants' negligence was a proximate cause of  
28

1 the Plaintiff's injuries, and the damages, harm and economic loss that Plaintiff  
2 suffered, and will continue to suffer, as described and prayed for herein.

3  
4 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
5 **BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTY**

6 50. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
7 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

8 51. Prior to the time that the aforementioned products were used by the  
9 Plaintiff, Defendants impliedly warranted to the Plaintiff and Plaintiff's agents and  
10 physicians that said products were of merchantable quality and safe and fit for the  
11 use for which they were intended.

12 52. Plaintiff was unskilled in the research, design and manufacture of the  
13 aforementioned products and reasonably relied entirely on the skill, judgment and  
14 implied warranty of the Plaintiff in using the aforementioned products.

15 53. The aforementioned product was neither safe for its intended use nor of  
16 merchantable quality, as warranted by Defendants, in that FOSAMAX® had  
17 dangerous propensities when put to its intended use and would cause severe injuries  
18 to the user.

19 54. As a result of the aforementioned breach of implied warranties by  
20 Defendants, the Plaintiff was injured and suffered the harm and damages as alleged  
21 herein.

22  
23 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
24 **FOR BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY**

25 55. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27 56. At all times herein mentioned, Defendants expressly represented and  
28 warranted to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's agents and physicians, by and through



1 statements made by Defendants or its authorized agents or sales representatives,  
2 orally and in publications, package inserts and other written materials intended for  
3 physicians, medical patients and the general public, that the aforementioned product  
4 was safe, effective, fit and proper for their intended use. In reliance upon said  
5 warranties, Plaintiff purchased said product.

6 57. In utilizing the aforementioned products, Plaintiff relied on the skill,  
7 judgment, representations and foregoing express warranties of the Defendants. Said  
8 warranties and representations were false in that the aforementioned products were  
9 not safe and were unfit for the uses for which they were intended.

10 58. As a result of the foregoing breach of express warranties by the  
11 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and sustained the harm and damages as herein  
12 alleged.

13  
14 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
15 **DECEIT BY CONCEALMENT**

16 59. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
17 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

18 60. Defendants, from the time that FOSAMAX® was first tested, studied,  
19 researched, evaluated, endorsed, manufactured, marketed and distributed, and up to  
20 the present, willfully deceived Plaintiff and by concealing from Plaintiff and  
21 Plaintiff's physicians and the general public, the true facts concerning said  
22 pharmaceutical products, which the Defendants had a duty to disclose.

23 61. Defendant Merck has not warned, and continues not to warn,  
24 physicians and consumers' physicians and consumers in the United States.

25 62. Defendant Merck conducted a sales and marketing campaign to  
26 promote the sale of the aforementioned drug products and willfully deceive Plaintiff  
27 and Plaintiff's physicians and the general public as to the health risks and  
28 consequences of the use of FOSAMAX® Defendants were aware of the foregoing,



1 and that FOSAMAX® was not safe, fit and effective for human consumption, the  
2 use of FOSAMAX® is hazardous to health, and FOSAMAX® has a serious  
3 propensity to cause serious injuries to users, including but not limited to the injuries  
4 suffered by Plaintiff and the harm and damages sustained by Plaintiff as delineated  
5 herein.

6 63. Defendants intentionally concealed and suppressed the true facts  
7 concerning FOSAMAX® with the intent to defraud Plaintiff, in that the Defendants  
8 knew that the Plaintiff's physicians would not prescribe FOSAMAX®, and the  
9 Plaintiff would not have used FOSAMAX®, if Plaintiff were aware of the true facts  
10 concerning the dangers of FOSAMAX®.

11 64. As a result of the foregoing fraudulent and deceitful conduct by the  
12 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and suffered harm and damages as alleged herein.  
13

14 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
15 **NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION**

16 65. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
17 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

18 66. Defendants, from the time that FOSAMAX® was first tested, studied,  
19 researched, evaluated, endorsed, manufactured, marketed and distributed, and up to  
20 the present, made false misrepresentations, as previously set forth herein, to  
21 Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians, and the general public, including but not limited to  
22 the misrepresentation that FOSAMAX® was safe, fit and effective for human  
23 consumption. Defendants conducted a sales and marketing campaign to promote the  
24 sale of FOSAMAX® and willfully deceived Plaintiff, Plaintiff's physicians and the  
25 general public as to the health risks and consequences of the use of the  
26 aforementioned products.

27 67. The Defendants made the foregoing representation without any  
28 reasonable ground for believing them to be true. These representations were made

1 directly by Defendants, by sales representatives and other authorized agents of said  
2 Defendants, and in publications and other written materials directed to physicians,  
3 medical patients and the public, with the intention of inducing reliance, and the  
4 prescription, purchase and use of the subject products.

5 68. The foregoing representations by the Defendants were in fact false, in  
6 that FOSAMAX® was not safe, fit and effective for human consumption, the use of  
7 FOSAMAX® is hazardous to health, and FOSAMAX® has a serious propensity to  
8 cause serious injuries to users, including but not limited to the injuries suffered by  
9 Plaintiff as delineated herein.

10 69. The foregoing representations by Defendants were made with the  
11 intention of inducing reliance and the prescription, purchase and use of  
12 FOSAMAX®.

13 70. In reliance on the misrepresentations by the Defendants, the Plaintiff  
14 was induced to purchase and use FOSAMAX®. If the Plaintiff had known of the  
15 true facts and the facts concealed by the Defendants, said Plaintiff would not have  
16 used FOSAMAX®. The reliance of Plaintiff upon Defendants' misrepresentations  
17 was justified because such misrepresentations were made and conducted by  
18 individuals and entities that were in a position to know the true facts.

19 71. As a result of the foregoing negligent misrepresentations by the  
20 Defendants, Plaintiff was injured and suffered harm and damages as alleged herein.

21  
22 **PUNITIVE DAMAGES ALLEGATIONS**

23 **(As to the First, Second, Third, Sixth, and**  
24 **Seventh Causes of Action, only)**

25 72. Plaintiff incorporates by reference herein each of the allegations  
26 heretofore set forth in this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

27 73. The acts, conduct, and omissions of Defendants as alleged throughout  
28 this Complaint were willful and malicious and were done with a conscious disregard

1 for the rights of Plaintiff and other users of the Defendants' product and for the  
2 primary purpose of increasing Defendants' profits from the sale and distribution of  
3 FOSAMAX®. Defendants' outrageous and unconscionable conduct warrants an  
4 award of exemplary and punitive damages against Defendants in an amount  
5 appropriate to punish and make an example of Defendants.

6 74. Prior to the manufacturing, sale and distribution of said prescribed  
7 medication, Defendants knew that said medication was in a defective condition as  
8 previously described herein and knew that those who were prescribed the  
9 medication would experience and did experience severe physical, mental, and  
10 emotional injuries. Further, Defendants, through their officers, directors, managers,  
11 and agents, had knowledge that the medication presented a substantial and  
12 unreasonable risk of harm to the public, including Plaintiff and, as such, said  
13 consumers of said drugs were unreasonably subjected to risk of injury or death from  
14 the consumption of said product.

15 75. Despite such knowledge, Defendants, acting through their officers,  
16 directors and managing agents for the purpose of enhancing Defendants' profits,  
17 knowingly and deliberately failed to remedy the known defects in said medication  
18 and failed to warn the public, including Plaintiff, of the extreme risk of injury  
19 occasioned by said defects inherent in said medication. Said Defendants and their  
20 individual agents, officers, and directors intentionally proceeded with the  
21 manufacturing, sale, and distribution and marketing of said medication knowing  
22 persons would be exposed to serious danger in order to advance Defendants' own  
23 pecuniary interest and monetary profits.

24 76. Defendants' conduct was despicable, and so contemptible that it would  
25 be looked down upon and despised by ordinary decent people, and was carried on by  
26 Defendants with willful and conscious disregard for the safety of and the rights of  
27 Plaintiff, entitling Plaintiff to exemplary damages.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff prays for judgment against the Defendants, as follows, as appropriate to each cause of action alleged:

1. Past and future general damages in excess of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00), exclusive of interest and costs, the exact amount of which has yet to be ascertained, in an amount which will conform to proof at time of trial;

2. Past and future economic and special damages according to proof at the time of trial;

3. Past medical and burial expenses according to proof at the time of trial;

4. For punitive or exemplary damages according to proof on the First, Second, Third, Sixth, and Seventh causes of action;

5. Restitution, disgorgement of profits, and other equitable relief;

6. Injunctive relief;

7. Attorney's fees;

8. For costs of suit incurred herein;

9. For pre-judgment interest as provided by law;

10. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: April 1, 2008

**Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706**

**PERONA, LANGER, BECK,**

**LALLANDE & SERBIN**

300 East San Antonio

Long Beach, CA 90807-0948

562-426-6155; Fax 562-988-9365

**Mark P. Robinson, Jr., SBN 054426**

**Cynthia L. Garber, SBN 208922**

**ROBINSON, CALCAGNIE & ROBINSON**

620 Newport Center Drive, 7th Floor

Newport Beach, CA 92660

949-720-1288; Fax 949-720-1292

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial as provided by rule 38(a) of the *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure*.

Dated: April 1, 2008

---

**Ellen R. Serbin, AZ SBN 011706**

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## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

<b>I. (a) PLAINTIFFS</b>	<b>DEFENDANTS</b>
<b>(b)</b> County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____ (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant _____ (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)
<b>(c)</b> Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)	NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.  Attorneys (If Known)

<b>II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	<b>III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES</b> (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)																								
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)</div></div>																								
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant</div></div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><thead><tr><th></th><th style="text-align: center;">PTF</th><th style="text-align: center;">DEF</th><th></th><th style="text-align: center;">PTF</th><th style="text-align: center;">DEF</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Citizen of This State</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td><td>Incorporated <i>or</i> Principal Place of Business In This State</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td></tr><tr><td>Citizen of Another State</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td><td>Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place of Business In Another State</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td></tr><tr><td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td><td>Foreign Nation</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td></tr></tbody></table>		PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF	Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated <i>or</i> Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
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Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6																				

<b>IV. NATURE OF SUIT</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)				
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<div style="display: flex;"><div style="flex: 1;"><b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel &amp; Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury</div><div style="flex: 1;"><b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  <b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability</div></div>	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <b>Habeas Corpus:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	<b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act  <b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))  <b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609

<b>V. ORIGIN</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)						
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Original Proceeding	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Removed from State Court	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Remanded from Appellate Court	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Reinstated or Reopened	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Transferred from another district (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Multidistrict Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

<b>VI. CAUSE OF ACTION</b>	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  Brief description of cause:
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<b>VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: <b>JURY DEMAND:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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<b>VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY</b>	(See instructions): JUDGE _____	DOCKET NUMBER _____
-------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------

DATE	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD
------	---------------------------------

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUDGE
-----------	--------	--------------	-------	------------

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44****Authority For Civil Cover Sheet**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

**I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.

(b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)

(c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

**II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

**III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

**IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.

**V. Origin.** Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

**VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553  
Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

**VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

**VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

**Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

District of ARIZONA

VICKI WEEKS,

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

V.

MERCK & COMPANY, INC.

CASE

TO: (Name and address of Defendant)

Merck & Company, Inc.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to serve on PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)

Mark P. Robinson, Jr.  
One Merck Drive  
P.O. Box 100  
Whitehouse Station, NJ

an answer to the complaint which is served on you with this summons, within 20 days after service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Any answer that you serve on the parties to this action must be filed with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK

DATE

(By) DEPUTY CLERK



Inasmuch as no objection is pending at this time, the stay is lifted.

MAY 19 2008

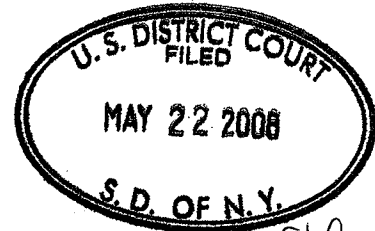
CLERK'S OFFICE  
JUDICIAL PANEL ON  
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

JUDGE KEENAN

MAY - 1 2008

FILED  
CLERK'S OFFICE

UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL  
on  
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION



IN RE: FOSAMAX PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

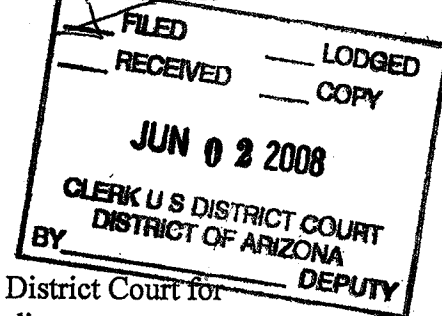
(Vicki Weeks v. Merck & Co., Inc., )

D. Arizona, C.A. No. 2:08-623 )

(Tommie L. Gomez v. Merck & Co., Inc., )

(N.D. Texas, C.A. No. 6:08-17 )

MDL No. 1789



CONDITIONAL TRANSFER ORDER (CTO-54)

On August 16, 2006, the Panel transferred four civil actions to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407. *See* 444 F.Supp.2d 1347 (J.P.M.L. 2006). Since that time, 123 additional actions have been transferred to the Southern District of New York. With the consent of that court, all such actions have been assigned to the Honorable John F. Keenan.

It appears that the actions on this conditional transfer order involve questions of fact that are common to the actions previously transferred to the Southern District of New York and assigned to Judge Keenan.

Pursuant to Rule 7.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, 199 F.R.D. 425, 435-36 (2001), these actions are transferred under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 to the Southern District of New York for the reasons stated in the order of August 16, 2006, and, with the consent of that court, assigned to the Honorable John F. Keenan.

This order does not become effective until it is filed in the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The transmittal of this order to said Clerk shall be stayed 15 days from the entry thereof. If any party files a notice of opposition with the Clerk of the Panel within this 15-day period, the stay will be continued until further order of the Panel.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

MAY 19 2008

ATTEST  
FOR THE JUDICIAL PANEL ON  
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

FOR THE PANEL:

*Jeffery N. McMahon*  
Jeffery N. McMahon, Clerk of the Panel  
MICHAEL McMAHON, CLERK  
*Carrie Lapsley*  
BY \_\_\_\_\_ DEPUTY CLERK

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CLERK**

**RICHARD H. WEARE**  
DISTRICT COURT EXECUTIVE / CLERK OF COURT  
SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR U. S. COURTHOUSE,  
SUITE 130  
401 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SPC 1  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85003-2118

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**RONNIE HONEY**  
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK  
SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR U. S. COURTHOUSE,  
SUITE 130  
401 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SPC 1  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85003-2118

**MICHAEL S. O'BRIEN**  
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK  
EVO A. DECONCINI U.S. COURTHOUSE  
405 W. CONGRESS, SUITE 1500  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-5010

June 2, 2008

J. Michael McMahon, Clerk  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York  
500 Pearl St.  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: Vicki Weeks, v. Merck & Company, Inc.**  
**Dist. of AZ No. 2:08-623-DKD**  
**S. Dist. of NY No. 08cv 4774**

Dear Mr. McMahon:

Pursuant to the certified transfer order received from your Court, the above captioned case is being transferred to your court for all further proceedings. Enclosed are certified copies of the Transfer Order and docket sheet. The complete case file may be accessed via our website at: **[www.azd.uscourts.gov](http://www.azd.uscourts.gov)**.

Please acknowledge receipt of same on the enclosed copy of this letter and return. Thank you.

**RICHARD H. WEARE, DCE/CLERK OF COURT**

By: s/ M. Pruneau  
Deputy Clerk

cc: All Counsel  
MDL Panel

Receipt is acknowledged of the documents described herein.

New Case Number: 08cv4774

Richard D. Sletten, Clerk  
U.S. District Court, Southern District Of New York

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk